

Did God say it, or did Eve? “Neither to touch it”:

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[Citation 10]

- The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2-352.1 (1884)

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- Patriarchs And Prophets, page 54.1 (1890)

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- Manuscript 104, par. 11, (circa) 1893

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- Manuscript 27, October 15, 1893; par. 1

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- Signs Of The Times, February 13, 1896, par. 5

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- Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23

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- Manuscript 145, December 30, 1897; Par. 2

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- Manuscript 140, September 27, 1903; par. 10

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- Confrontation, 14.2 (1971, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]

[Citation 37] [compilation 06]

- From Here To Forever, page 328.2 (1982, compilation) [citing Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2]

[Citation 38] [compilation 07]

- The Impending Conflict, page 14.3 (compilation, January 1, 1988) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]

[Citation 39] [compilation 08]

- Lift him Up, 20.2 (1988, compilation, citing the Story Of Redemption, pages 24-31)

[Citation 40] [compilation 09]

- The Truth About Angels, 54.2-54.4 (1996, compilation)

[Citation 41] [compilation 10]

- Darkness Before Dawn, page 13.3 (1997, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]

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- From The Heart, page 141.5 (September 7, 2010, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]

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[Citation 44] [compilation 13]

- The Great Hope (Condensed), page 14.2 (January 1, 2012, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 531.2]

02. WHO STATED WHAT???

[01] God commands???

[Citation 01] - Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 35.2 (1864)

[Citation 03] - The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 1, 27.1 (1870)

[Citation 32] [compilation 01] - The Story Of Redemption, 24.1 (1947, compilation) [citing Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 35.2 (1864)]

[Citation 39] [compilation 08] - Lift him Up, 20.2 (1988, compilation, citing the Story Of Redemption, pages 24-31)

"... the Lord commanded our first parents not to eat, neither to touch it, lest they die. He told them that they might freely eat all of the trees in the garden except one; but if they ate of that tree they should surely die. ..."

Do you see the context? The "Lord commanded" "not to eat", and "He told them that they might freely eat ... except one", and "if they ate". God said nothing about "neither to touch it", as He only gave "one" command ("not to eat"), not two ("neither to touch it"). The part about "neither to touch it" (as the whole reference) comes from the context of Genesis 3 with Eve speaking to the serpent. She (Eve) added to the word of God. Sister White, in context, is simply summing Genesis 3:3, without quotation marks, or giving the reference directly. See more:

[Citation 12] - Experiences In Australia, page 107.5 (October, 1893)

"... God placed only one restriction upon them. Of the fruit of the tree which was in (508) the midst of the garden, He said, "Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." If they would not regard this restriction, they would forfeit their life. ..."

Again, notice the reference cited is Genesis 3:3, not Genesis 2. The context of the statement again, is about Eve and the serpents conversation. Notice the words "one restriction", not two, and that single restriction ("this restriction", not "these restrictions") was "not eat of it", while the other part "neither shall ye touch it", was added by Eve, in that she said that God had said it. See further:

[Citation 21] - Manuscript 27, October 15, 1893; par. 1

[Citation 34] [compilation 03] - Temperance (1949, compilation), [cited from MS 27, 1893]

"... God made only one restriction. "The fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die."

[Genesis 3:3.] They would forfeit their life if they did not obey the restriction. ..."

Did you notice again, "only one restriction", and "not eat of it", and "the restriction", not "these restrictions". Did you also notice the reference given as "[Genesis 3:3]"? This means that sister White is citing what Eve said, and you may even see the quotation marks this time. The context that sister White is writing about is Genesis 3, and thus uses Genesis 3's reference to refer back to what God actually stated, though Eve was then adding to it (and also subtracting from it, for Eve misses the word "surely", as in "surely die"). It was Eve who both added and had taken away from God's word, not sister White. I even spoke of this in another place in this forum recently.

[02] Eve states that God said ...

[Citation 02] - Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 40.1 (1864)

"... Eve answers ... "... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

[Citation 04] - The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 1, 36.1 (1870)

[Citation 09] - The Signs Of The Times, January 16, 1879; par. 25

"... She answers ... "... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

[Citation 05] - The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; February 24, 1874; par. 12

[Citation 07] - Redemption; or the Temptation of Christ in The Wilderness, page 9.2 (aka "2Red"; reprint Of articles appearing in Signs Of The Times & The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; 1874-1875)

[Citation 33] [compilation 02] - The Story Of Redemption, 33.1 (1947, compilation) [citing Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 40.1 (1864)]

[Citation 40] [compilation 09] - The Truth About Angels, 54.2-54.4 (1996, compilation)

"... She answered ... "... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

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[Citation 29] - Letter 245a, October 5, 1903; par. 30

[Citation 43] [compilation 12] - Christ Triumphant, page 21.4 (December 5, 2010) [citing Patriarchs And Prophets, page 54.1]

"... she replied ... "... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

[Citation 10] - The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2-352.1 (1884)

[Citation 11] - The Great Controversy 1888; page 532.1

[Citation 13] - The Signs Of The Times, October 8. 1894; par. 3

[Citation 15] - The Youth's Instructor, June 2, 1898; par. 3

[Citation 16] - The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, November 15, 1898; par. 9

[Citation 17] - The Youth's Instructor, February 22, 1900; par. 2

[Citation 18] - The Great Controversy 1911, page 532.1

[Citation 20] - Manuscript 104, par. 11, (circa) 1893

[Citation 22] - Signs Of The Times, February 13, 1896, par. 5

[Citation 24] - Manuscript 56, June 24, 1897; par. 7
 [Citation 25] - Manuscript 145, December 30, 1897; Par. 2
 [Citation 26] - Manuscript 21, February 20, 1898; par. 29
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 [Citation 31] - Manuscript 164, December 28, 1905; par. 14
 [Citation 35] [compilation 04] - Selected Messages Book 1, 214.1 (1958, compilation)
 [Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23]
 [Citation 37] [compilation 06] - From Here To Forever, page 328.2 (1982, compilation) [citing Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2]
 [Citation 38] [compilation 07] - The Impending Conflict, page 14.3 (compilation, January 1, 1988) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]
 [Citation 41] [compilation 10] - Darkness Before Dawn, page 13.3 (1997, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]
 [Citation 44] [compilation 13] - The Great Hope (Condensed), page 14.2 (January 1, 2012, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 531.2]

"... the woman said ... " ... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

[Citation 14] - The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, April 5, 1898; par. 8

"... the woman said ... " ... God hath saith ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

[Citation 30] - Education, page 23.3 (1903)

"... the woman's statement ... " ... God hath said ... neither shall ye touch it ..." ..."

In all these references sister White clearly states that it was "Eve", or "the woman", etc, that said that "God said ... neither shall ye touch it". All of sister Whites materials are clear on this point, if even some might be confused (as they do not read carefully or prayerfully) in the first three citations. Many people "wrest" sister White as also they do the scriptures, as many had done to Paul, as Peter warned of. All must be read together, precept upon precept, precept upon precept, line upon line, line upon line, here a little and there a little.

[03] So who said what exactly? It was Eve that wrongly added the clause, "neither shall ye touch it":

[Citation 06] - The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; February 24, 1874; par. 14
 [Citation 08] - Redemption; or the Temptation of Christ in The Wilderness, page 11.1 (aka "2Red"; reprint Of articles appearing in Signs Of The Times & The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; 1874-1875)
 [Citation 36] [compilation 05] - Confrontation, 14.2 (1971, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]
 [Citation 40] [compilation 09] - The Truth About Angels, 54.2-54.4 (1996, compilation)
 [Citation 42] [compilation 11] - From The Heart, page 141.5 (September 7, 2010, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]

"... Eve had overstated the words of God's command. He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it; for

in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." In Eve's controversy with the serpent, she added the clause, "Neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." Here the subtlety of the serpent was seen. This statement of Eve ..."

"... used her own words, "He hath said, 'If ye touch it, ..."

[04] Sister White, what ever could you possibly mean (even though you were so clear in so many places for those who read carefully and prayerfully). Here is a clarification if there was ever any doubt in all that was said:

[Citation 23] - Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23 [**The Key Clarification By Sister White**]

"... There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. Adam believed the lie of Satan, the wily insinuations against the character of God. "And the Lord commanded man saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." [Genesis 2:16, 17.] When Satan tempted Eve, he said, "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it," (this God did not say) "lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." [Genesis 3:1-5.] ..." - Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23

Most of the citations are directly citing (and the others indirectly referencing) **Genesis 3:1-5,6** (depending on the citation).

For instance, many (original and compilation) even directly give the reference, see:

Original (when sister White was alive):

[Citation 10] - The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2-352.1 (1884)

[Citation 11] - The Great Controversy 1888; page 532.1

[Citation 18] - The Great Controversy 1911, page 532.1

[Citation 20] - Manuscript 104, par. 11, (circa) 1893

[Citation 21] - Manuscript 27, October 15, 1893; par. 1

[Citation 23] - Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23

[Citation 24] - Manuscript 56, June 24, 1897; par. 7

[Citation 25] - Manuscript 145, December 30, 1897; Par. 2

[Citation 26] - Manuscript 21, February 20, 1898; par. 29

[Citation 28] - Manuscript 140, September 27, 1903; par. 10

[Citation 29] - Letter 245a, October 5, 1903; par. 30

[Citation 30] - Education, page 23.3 (1903)

[Citation 31] - Manuscript 164, December 28, 1905; par. 14

Compilation (after sister White went to sleep):

[Citation 35] [compilation 04] - Selected Messages Book 1, 214.1 (1958, compilation)

[Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23]

[Citation 37] [compilation 06] - From Here To Forever, page 328.2 (1982, compilation) [citing Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2]

[Citation 38] [compilation 07] - The Impending Conflict, page 14.3 (compilation, January 1, 1988) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]

[Citation 40] [compilation 09] - The Truth About Angels, 54.2-54.4 (1996, compilation)

[Citation 41] [compilation 10] - Darkness Before Dawn, page 13.3 (1997, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]

[Citation 44] [compilation 13] - The Great Hope (Condensed), page 14.2 (January 1, 2012, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 531.2]

03. FULL CITATIONS WITH REFERENCES AND HIGHLIGHTS

[Citation 01]

"... In the midst of the garden, near the tree of life, stood the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Of this tree the Lord commanded our first parents not to eat, **neither to touch it**, lest they die. He told them that they might freely eat of all the trees in the garden except one; but if they ate of that tree they should surely die. {3SG 35.2} ..." - **Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 35.2 (1864)**

[Citation 02]

"... Eve's curiosity was aroused. Instead of fleeing from the spot, she listened to hear a serpent talk. That strange voice should have driven her to her husband's side to inquire of him why another should thus freely address her. But she enters into a controversy with the serpent. And he said unto the woman, "Yea, hath God said ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" He begins his controversy in the form of a question. **Eve answers**, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." The serpent answers, "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods knowing good and evil." {3SG 40.1} ..." - **Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 40.1 (1864)**

[Citation 03]

"... In the midst of the garden, near the tree of life, stood the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This tree was especially designed of God to be the pledge of their obedience, faith and love to him. Of this tree the Lord commanded our first parents not to eat, **neither to touch it**, lest they die. He told them that they might freely eat of all the trees in the garden except one; but if they ate of that tree they should surely die. {1SP 27.1} ..." - **The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 1, 27.1 (1870)**

[Citation 04]

"... Eve's curiosity was aroused. Instead of fleeing from the spot, she listened to hear a serpent talk. It did not occur to her mind that it might be that fallen foe, using the serpent as a medium. It was Satan that spoke, not the serpent. Eve was beguiled, flattered, infatuated. Had she met a commanding personage, possessing a form like the angels, and resembling them, she would have been upon her guard. But that strange voice should have driven her to her husband's side to inquire of him why another should thus freely address her. But she enters into a controversy with the serpent. She answers his question, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." The serpent answers, "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." {1SP 36.1} ..." - **The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 1, 36.1 (1870)**

[Citation 05]

"... Eve had wandered near the forbidden tree, and her curiosity was aroused to know how death could be concealed in the fruit of this fair tree. She was surprised to hear her queries taken up and repeated by a strange voice. "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden." Eve was not aware that she had revealed her thoughts by conversing to herself aloud; therefore, she was greatly astonished to hear her queries repeated by a serpent. She really thought the serpent had a knowledge of her thoughts, and that he must be very wise. She answered him, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ..." - **The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; February 24, 1874; par. 12**

[Citation 06]

"... Eve had overstated the words of God's command. He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." In Eve's controversy with the serpent, she added the clause, "Neither shall ye touch it, lest ye die." Here the subtlety of the serpent was seen. This statement of Eve gave him advantage, and he plucked the fruit, and placed it in her hand, and used her own words, "He hath said, 'If ye touch it, ye shall die.' You see no harm comes to you from touching the fruit, neither will you receive any harm by eating it." Eve yielded to the lying sophistry of the devil in the form of a serpent. She ate the fruit, and realized no immediate harm. She then plucked the fruit for herself and for her husband. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her, and he did eat." {RH, February 24, 1874 par. 14}..." - **The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; February 24, 1874; par. 14**

[Citation 07]

"... Eve had wandered near the forbidden tree, and her curiosity was aroused to know how death could be concealed in the fruit of this fair tree. She was surprised to hear her queries taken up and repeated by a strange voice. "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve was not aware that she had revealed her thoughts in audibly conversing with herself; therefore, she was greatly astonished to hear her queries repeated by a serpent. She really thought that the serpent had a knowledge of her thoughts, and that he must be very wise. She answered him, "We may eat of the fruit

of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ... - **Redemption; or the Temptation of Christ in The Wilderness, page 9.2 (aka "2Red"; reprint Of articles appearing in Signs Of The Times & The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; 1874-1875)**

[Citation 08]

"... **Eve had overstated the words of God's command**. He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." **In Eve's controversy with the serpent, she added "Neither shall ye touch it."** Here the subtlety of the serpent appeared. **This statement of Eve** gave him advantage; he plucked the fruit and placed it in her hand, using her own words, He hath said, If ye touch it, ye shall die. You see no harm comes to you from touching the fruit, neither will you receive any harm by eating it. Eve yielded to the lying sophistry of the devil in the form of a serpent. She ate the fruit, and realized no immediate harm. She then plucked the fruit for herself and for her husband. "And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband with her; and he did eat." {2Red 11.1} ... - **Redemption; or the Temptation of Christ in The Wilderness, page 11.1 (aka "2Red"; reprint Of articles appearing in Signs Of The Times & The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald; 1874-1875)**

[Citation 09]

"... Eve's curiosity was aroused. Instead of fleeing from the spot, she listened to hear a serpent talk. It did not occur to her mind that it might be that fallen foe, using the serpent as a medium. It was Satan that spoke, not the serpent. Eve was beguiled, flattered, infatuated. Had she met a commanding personage, possessing a form like the angels, and resembling them, she would have been upon her guard. But that strange voice should have driven her to her husband's side to inquire of him why another should thus freely address her. But she enters into a controversy with the serpent. **She answers** his question, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." The serpent answers, "Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ... - **The Signs Of The Times, January 16, 1879; par. 25**

[Citation 10]

"... Employing as his medium the serpent, then a creature of fascinating appearance, he addressed himself to Eve, "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" [Genesis 3:1.] Had Eve refrained from entering into argument with the tempter, she would have been safe; but she ventured to parley with him, and fell a victim to his wiles. It is thus that many are still overcome. They doubt and argue concerning the requirements of God, and instead of obeying the divine commands, they accept human theories, which but disguise the devices of Satan. [352] {4SP 351.2}

"**The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know

that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **[Genesis 3:2-5.]** Eve yielded to temptation, and through her influence Adam also was deceived. They accepted the words of the serpent, that God did not mean what he said; they distrusted their Creator, and imagined that he was restricting their liberty, and that they might obtain great light and freedom by transgressing his law. {4SP 352.1} ..." - **The Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2-352.1 (1884)**

[Citation 11]

"... **The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **[Genesis 3:2-5.]** He declared that they would become like God, possessing greater wisdom than before, and being capable of a higher state of existence. Eve yielded to temptation; and through her influence, Adam was led into sin. They accepted the words of the serpent, that God did not mean what he said; they distrusted their Creator, and imagined that he was restricting their liberty, and that they might obtain great wisdom and exaltation by transgressing his law. ..." - **The Great Controversy 1888; page 532.1**

[Citation 12]

"... God created our first parents and placed them in the garden of Eden. They had all that their wants required. Nothing was lacking to make them happy. **God placed only one restriction upon them. Of the fruit of the tree which was in (508) the midst of the garden, He said**, "Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." If they would not regard **this restriction**, they would forfeit their life. ..." - **Experiences In Australia, page 107.5 (October, 1893)**

[Citation 13]

"... The Lord had said unto them, "Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." In every matter God was to be obeyed; but the test of man's obedience in everything was to be found in his faithfulness in carrying out one particular command, in abstaining from taking of the forbidden tree. The result of obedience would be eternal life, and the outworking of disobedience would be death. Adam and Eve were tempted of Satan. The tempter came to them, saying: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." They believed the words of the serpent, that were in contradiction to the words of God, their Maker. Falsehood was taken instead of truth, and the flood gates of woe were opened upon our world. ..." - **The Signs Of The Times, October 8. 1894; par. 3**

[Citation 14]

"... There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. Adam believed the lie of Satan, the wily insinuations against the character of God. "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of

every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." When Satan tempted Eve, he said, "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath saith**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ... - **The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, April 5, 1898; par. 8**

[Citation 15]

"... But Satan came to the dwellers in Eden, and insinuated doubts of God's wisdom. He accused him, their Heavenly Father and Sovereign, of selfishness, because, to test their loyalty, he had prohibited them from eating of the tree of knowledge. "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" he said to Eve. "And **the woman said**, ... We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." ... - **The Youth's Instructor, June 2, 1898; par. 3**

[Citation 16]

"... Satan will use every subtle argument to deceive men and women as he did in Eden to deceive Adam and Eve. "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Satan said to Eve. "And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ... - **The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, November 15, 1898; par. 9**

[Citation 17]

"... In Eden, Adam and Eve transgressed the law of God. God had forbidden them to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. But instead of obeying the voice of God, they listened to the words of the tempter. "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Satan asked. "And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. ..." - **The Youth's Instructor, February 22, 1900; par. 2**

[Citation 18]

"... "**The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Verses 2-5**. He declared that they would become like God, possessing greater wisdom than before and being capable of a higher state of existence. Eve yielded to temptation; and through her influence, Adam was led into sin. They accepted the words of the serpent, that God did not mean what He said; they distrusted their Creator and imagined that He was restricting their liberty and that they

might obtain great wisdom and exaltation by transgressing His law. {GC 532.1} ..." - **The Great Controversy 1911, page 532.1**

[Citation 19]

"... To the tempter's ensnaring question **she replied**: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ..." - **Patriarchs And Prophets, page 54.1 (1890)**

[Citation 20]

"... In Eden God claimed one tree as his own, and man was not to eat its fruit or treat it in any way as his own; but Satan came to Even as an angel of light, and persuaded her that this particular prohibition was of arbitrary authority. "And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, we may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **[Genesis 3:1-5.] ...**" - **Manuscript 104, par. 11, (circa) 1893**

[Citation 21]

"... [Read] Luke 17:26-30. Now, we know that intemperance is in our world everywhere. There is no sin in eating and drinking to sustain us physically, and in doing that which is for our spiritual good. But when we lose eternity out of our reckoning, and carry these necessary things to excess, that is when the sin comes in. We see on every side such crime, such iniquity. Is it not time that we shall begin to study for ourselves? We have souls to save or souls to lose. God created our first parents and placed them in Paradise. **God made only one restriction**. "The fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God hath said, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." **[Genesis 3:3.] They would forfeit their life if they did not obey the restriction.** ..." - **Manuscript 27, October 15, 1893; par. 1**

[Citation 22]

"... It was when he was in conflict with man that Satan gained his first victory. Changing his appearance, assuming the disguise of a serpent, in the most subtle, artful-manner he assailed Eve, saying, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." The woman erred when she entered into controversy with the serpent. The Lord had not said, "Ye shall not touch it." He had said, "Of every tree in the garden thou mayest freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." {ST, February 13, 1896 par. 5} ..." - **Signs Of The Times, February 13, 1896, par. 5**

[Citation 23] [The Key Clarification By Sister White]

"... There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. Adam believed the lie of Satan, the wily insinuations against the character of God. "And the Lord commanded man saying, Of every tree of

the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it; for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." [Genesis 2:16, 17.] When Satan tempted Eve, he said, "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**," (**this God did not say**) "lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." [Genesis 3:1-5.] ..." - Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23

[Citation 24]

"... Disguising himself as a serpent, Satan came to Eve and said, "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." Genesis 3:1-3. ..." - Manuscript 56, June 24, 1897; par. 7

[Citation 25]

"... Satan will use very subtle argument to deceive men and women as he did in Eden to deceive Adam and Eve. A lie will be made to appear a very desirable fact. "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Satan said to Eve. "And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the women, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." [Genesis 3:1-5.] ..." - Manuscript 145, December 30, 1897; Par. 2

[Citation 26]

"... By listening to the tempter, our first parents lost their beautiful Eden home. Satan found Eve willing to listen to his temptations, and read a disposition to distrust the Word of God. "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" he asked. And **the woman said**, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." [Genesis 3:1-5.] ..." - Manuscript 21, February 20, 1898; par. 29

[Citation 27]

"... Filled with enmity against God, Satan lurked in the forbidden tree, making it the field for carrying out his plan to ruin the human race. Appearing to Eve in the form of a serpent, he addressed the woman, saying: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. . . . For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." By partaking of this tree, he declared they would attain to a more exalted sphere of existence, and enter a broader field of knowledge. He himself had eaten of the

forbidden fruit, and as a result had acquired the power of speech. He insinuated that the Lord jealously desired to withhold it from them, lest they should be exalted to equality with himself. He said it was because of its wonderful properties for imparting wisdom and power, that he had prohibited them from tasting or even touching it: that God had been seeking to prevent them from reaching a nobler development, and finding greater happiness. Satan claimed to have received great good by eating of the forbidden fruit; but he did not let it appear that by transgression he had become an outcast from heaven. He concealed his own misery, in order to draw others into the same condition. {GCDB, March 6, 1899 par. 3} ..." - **General Conference Daily Bulletin; Tree Of Life And The Tree Of Knowledge par. 3 (March 6, 1899), or article in total; par. 34**

[Citation 28]

"... To the tempter's ensnaring question **she replied**, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **[Verses 2-5.] ...** - **Manuscript 140, September 27, 1903; par. 10**

[Citation 29]

"... To the tempter's ensnaring question **she replied**: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **[Verses 2-5.] ...** - **Letter 245a, October 5, 1903; par. 30**

[Citation 30]

"... While God was seeking man's good, Satan was seeking his ruin. When Eve, disregarding the Lord's admonition concerning the forbidden tree, ventured to approach it, she came in contact with her foe. Her interest and curiosity having been awakened, Satan proceeded to deny God's word, and to insinuate distrust of His wisdom and goodness. To **the woman's statement** concerning the tree of knowledge, "**God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die," the tempter made answer, "Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Genesis 3:3-5. ...** - **Education, page 23.3 (1903)**

[Citation 31]

"... "And he said unto the woman, Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil. And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree to be desired to make one wise, she took of the fruit thereof, and did eat, and gave also unto her husband, with her; and he did eat." **[Genesis 3:1-6.] ...** - **Manuscript 164, December 28, 1905; par. 14**

[Citation 32] [compilation 01]

"... In the midst of the garden, near the tree of life, stood the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This tree was especially designed of God to be the pledge of their obedience, faith, and love to Him. Of this tree the Lord commanded our first parents not to eat, **neither to touch it**, lest they die. He told them that they might freely eat of all the trees in the garden except one, but if they ate of that tree they should surely die. {SR 24.1} ..." - **The Story Of Redemption, 24.1 (1947, compilation) [citing Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 35.2 (1864)]**

[Citation 33] [compilation 02]

"... Eve's curiosity was aroused. Instead of fleeing from the spot, she listened to hear a serpent talk. It did not occur to her mind that it might be that fallen foe, using the serpent as a medium. It was Satan that spoke, not the serpent. Eve was beguiled, flattered, infatuated. Had she met a commanding personage, possessing a form like the angels and resembling them, she would have been upon her guard. But that strange voice should have driven her to her husband's side to inquire of him why another should thus freely address her. But she entered into a controversy with the serpent. She answered his question, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden. But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." The serpent answered, "Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." ..." - **The Story Of Redemption, 33.1 (1947, compilation) [citing Spiritual Gifts, Volume 3, 40.1 (1864)]**

[Citation 34] [compilation 03]

"... "And as it was in the days of Noah, so shall it be also in the days of the Son of man. They did eat, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered into the ark, and the Flood came, and destroyed them all. Likewise also as it was in the days of Lot; they did eat, they drank, they bought, they sold, they planted, they builded; but the same day that Lot went out of Sodom it rained fire and brimstone from heaven, and destroyed them all. Even thus shall it be in the day when the Son of man is revealed." Luke 17:26-30. Now, we know that intemperance is in our world everywhere. There is no sin in eating and drinking to sustain us physically, and in doing that which is for our spiritual good. But when we lose eternity out of our reckoning, and carry these necessary things to excess, that is when the sin comes in. We see on every side such crime, such iniquity. Is it not time that we shall begin to study for ourselves? We have souls to save or souls to lose. God created our first parents and placed them in Paradise. God made only one restriction. "The fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." They would forfeit their life, if they did not obey the restriction. {Te 283.2} ..." - **Temperance (1949, compilation), [cited from MS 27, 1893]**

[Citation 35] [compilation 04]

"... There are many beliefs that the mind has no right to entertain. Adam believed the lie of Satan, the wily insinuations against the character of God. "And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die" (Genesis 2:16, 17). When Satan tempted Eve, he said, "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden? And the woman said unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**,

lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil” **(Genesis 3:1-5). ...** - Selected Messages Book 1, 214.1 (1958, compilation) [Manuscript 16, March 25, 1897; par. 23]

[Citation 36] [compilation 05]

"... **Eve had overstated the words of God's command.** He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." In Eve's controversy with the serpent, **she added "Neither shall ye touch it."** Here the subtlety of the serpent appeared. **This statement of Eve** gave him advantage; he plucked the fruit and placed it in her hand, using her own words, He hath said, If ye touch it, ye shall die. You see no harm comes to you from touching the fruit, neither will you receive any harm by eating it. {Con 14.2} ..." - **Confrontation, 14.2 (1971, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]**

[Citation 37] [compilation 06]

"... Adam and Eve had been warned against this dangerous foe, but he worked in the dark, concealing his purpose. Employing as his medium the serpent, then a creature of fascinating appearance, he addressed Eve: "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve ventured to parley with him and fell victim to his wiles: "**The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said,** Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it,** lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Genesis 3:1-5. ...** - **From Here To Forever, page 328.2 (1982, compilation) [citing Spirit Of Prophecy, Volume 4, 351.2]**

[Citation 38] [compilation 07]

"... "And **the woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: But of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said,** Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it,** lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Genesis 3:2-5.** He declared that they would become like God, possessing greater wisdom than before, and being capable of a higher state of existence. Eve yielded to temptation; and through her influence, Adam was led into sin. They accepted the words of the serpent, that God did not mean what He said; they distrusted their Creator, and imagined that He was restricting their liberty, and that they might obtain great wisdom and exaltation by transgressing His law. ..." - **The Impending Conflict, page 14.3 (compilation, January 1, 1988) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]**

[Citation 39] [compilation 08]

"... In the midst of the garden, near the tree of life, stood the tree of knowledge of good and evil. This tree was especially designed of God to be the pledge of their obedience, faith, and love to Him. Of this tree **the Lord commanded** our first parents not to eat, **neither to touch it,** lest they die. . . . {LHU 20.2} ..." - **Lift him Up, 20.2 (1988, compilation, citing the Story Of Redemption, pages 24-31)**

[Citation 40] [compilation 09]

"... She [Eve] really thought the serpent had a knowledge of her thoughts, and that he must be very wise. **She answered** him, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die; for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."
[Genesis 3:2-5.] {TA 54.2}

Here the father of lies made his assertion in direct contradiction to the expressed word of God. Satan assured Eve that she was created immortal, and that there was no possibility of her dying. He told her that God knew that if they ate of the tree of knowledge their understanding would be enlightened, expanded, and ennobled, making them equal with Himself. . . . Eve thought the discourse of the serpent very wise. . . . She looked with longing desire upon the tree laden with fruit which appeared very delicious. The serpent was eating it with apparent delight. {TA 54.3}

Eve had overstated the words of God's command. He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil thou shalt not eat of it, for in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." **In Eve's controversy with the serpent, she added the clause,** "**Neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." Here the [55] subtlety of the serpent was seen. **This statement of Eve** gave him advantage. —RH Feb. 24, 1874. {TA 54.4} ... - **The Truth About Angels, 54.2-54.4 (1996, compilation)**

[Citation 41] [compilation 10]

"... "**The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Verses 2-5.** He declared that they would become like God, possessing greater wisdom than before and being capable of a higher state of existence. Eve yielded to temptation; and through her influence, Adam was led into sin. They accepted the words of the serpent, that God did not mean what He said; they distrusted their Creator and imagined that He was restricting their liberty and that they might obtain great wisdom and exaltation by transgressing His law. ..." - **Darkness Before Dawn, page 13.3 (1997, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 532.1]**

[Citation 42] [compilation 11]

"... **Eve had overstated the words of God's command.** He had said to Adam and Eve, "But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die." **In Eve's controversy with the serpent, she added the clause,** "**Neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die." ... **This statement of Eve** gave him advantage, and he plucked the fruit, and placed it in her hand, and **used her own words,** "**He hath said, 'If ye touch it**, ye shall die.' You see no harm comes to you from touching the fruit, neither will you receive any harm by eating it." ... She ate the fruit, and realized no immediate harm. She then plucked the fruit for herself and for her husband.... ..." - **From The Heart, page 141.5 (September 7, 2010, compilation) [citing The Advent Review And Sabbath Herald, February 24, 1874; par. 14]**

[Citation 43] [compilation 12]

"... Now was the tempter's opportunity. As if he were able to discern the workings of her mind, he addressed her: "Yea, hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve was surprised and startled as she thus seemed to hear the echo of her thoughts.... To the tempter's ensnaring question **she replied**: "We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil."" - **Christ Triumphant, page 21.4 (December 5, 2010) [citing Patriarchs And Prophets, page 54.1]**

[Citation 44] [compilation 13]

"... Adam and Eve had been warned against this dangerous foe, but he worked in the dark, concealing his purpose. Employing as his medium the serpent, then a creature of fascinating appearance, he addressed Eve: "Hath God said, Ye shall not eat of every tree of the garden?" Eve ventured to parley with him and fell victim to his wiles: "**The woman said** unto the serpent, We may eat of the fruit of the trees of the garden: but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, **God hath said**, Ye shall not eat of it, **neither shall ye touch it**, lest ye die. And the serpent said unto the woman, Ye shall not surely die: for God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil." **Genesis 3:1-5. ...**" - **The Great Hope (Condensed), page 14.2 (January 1, 2012, compilation) [citing The Great Controversy 1888 & 1911; page 531.2]**